Sisters' S. C. E.

From the Field

My work at Middlebranch was not finished when I wrote last, so I will continue the letter now. Notwithstanding the small attendance at the services Tuesday night a number of new names were added to the list of S. S. C. E. members. Among those upon whom we called the next day was a sister of the Reformed church, who, tho poor, showed her interest in a real way, giving a dollar and a quarter for the work. Fifty cents of this will be the nucleus for the free-will offering of the Middlebranch S. S. C. E. to the theological fund. The leaders of this Society have withstood many difficulties and even opposition in their efforts, yet they stand firmly assuring us that their work is well founded. I found a number greatly interested in the college, even one of their little boys was anxious to know whether the professor in zoology would keep on studying snake science.

The drive to Canton with Sister Wise and Hugo Paul was delightful. While there I called on the Snyder sisters, who readily gave their pledge to help support the Bible departments of the college. The following day many of the sisters and some of the business men of Louisville enjoyed the missionary dinner given by Sister Hershberger. This is where Mr. and Mrs. McKinley took dinner some time previous. After testing her cooking one does not wonder that even the President enjoys visiting her at mealtime. It is, however, in a more important point that Sister Hershberger is essential to the Louisville society. Tho she has learned to do with her might what her hands find to do, and their earnings each year is about $100, the material progress is not the most pleasing feature, but rather the high standard to which their S. S. C. E. has been raised. Everyone acknowledges this the best society in the town, holds a high regard for it and I believe the secret of their success is due, not alone to their faithfulness in attendance, but that they hold their regular meetings in the church each month. Everyone is invited to attend. Sometimes they use a helpful topic, other times a good program is carried out. Their work meetings come every week, yet they cannot sew fast enough to meet the demand. Some of you are saying "if only we could say the same of this place, then we too could earn $100 each year." One of the other Ladies' Societies of a larger church in the same town, can not sell what they make. The difference is they don't go about the Lord's work with all their might as if the Father's business required haste. Other things being equal, the society that succeeds is the one that *wills* to do so, but not without continual effort and toil.

Mail sent to Masontown, Pa., will reach me until I write next week.

VIANNA DETWILER.

Columbiana, Ohio.

Our Young People

More Like Jesus

More like Jesus! Every day
This the silent prayer to say
While we pass along our way.

More like Jesus! As we go
Something good may we bestow,
Helpful in another's woe.

More like Jesus! Meek and mild,
Holy, harmless, undefiled,
Gentle as a loving child.

More like Jesus! This our quest
Till in mansions of the blest
Perfect peace shall fill the breast.

More like Jesus! O that all
Ruin'd in the bitter fall
On the name of Christ may call.

—*Thomas MacKellar, Ph. D.*

RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM—Rom. 13 : 1-9

Topic for July 6.

At a meeting of the Civic Federation of Chicago about a year ago it was desired to place a minister of the city on an important committee. One after another of the city pastors were mentioned as available but the chairman asked in each case, "Has he the instinct of broad public spirit?" and not one could be found who in the opinion of that body was interested enough in public affairs to act on that committee. They doubtless were mistaken, yet we are led to ask if it be not true that many church members and pastors too, have little interest in ways of helping the kingdom outside of the narrow lines of their own church work. Some have the pernicious idea that the Lord means to call out a few saints and translate them soon and leave the rest to destruction. Such a view causes them to be self-centered and more concerned about God's work than their own. But God has committed to men the regeneration of society until "the knowledge of the glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea," and to men the transformation of the nations until "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ." The Christian is not to be a monk either in a cave or a city. Christianity is not something apart from business or politics but a principle controlling a man in business and politics and society and everywhere else.

It is not for us to lift up holy hands and say, "Let Christ be ignored in business, laughed at in society and spat upon in politics; I am innocent of his blood." Every man, woman and child is responsible for the condition of the world so far as their power goes by voice or vote or other influence to change it. We are not Christians *and* citizens, but Christian citizens. We are to have, not religion and patriotism, but religious patriotism. He serves God best who serves his generation best, and he most honors his country who most honors God. Our Independence Day is once more at hand. Let our young people rise to a higher sense of duty both to country and to God and so learn to live that they may help make Christian principles dominant in every department of life.

SCRIPTURE HELP

1. The Christian's relation to the world. John 17 : 15.

Is it a Christian's duty to vote and run for office if qualified? Is it right to go to prayer-meeting rather than to the primaries? How can reforms be brought about if Christians do not help?

2. How a Christian can show patriotism.

By obeying the law, Rom. 13 : 1. By doing all the duties of citizenship, Matt. 22 : 21. What duties has a citizen of a republic which a citizen of a monarchy does not have? Does true patriotism consider the interests of one's own country only or of the entire world? How do Christians sometimes fail to show patriotism?

3. How religion can be shown.

By making the kingdom first always, Matt. 6 : 33. By helping remove dangers from others, Isa 57 : 14. By applying Christian principles to government, Rev. 21 : 24. At this stage of the world's progress is it practicable to run the government on Christian principles? If our government were completely Christian what changes would be made? How can we best get Christian men into office?

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1 Christian patriotism permits no license of evil, Hab, 2 : 12.

2 As nation's judge they shall be judged, Hab. 2 : 8.

3 God's dealing with nations, Jer. 18 : 7-10.

FOR OPEN MEETING

1 What makes a country great?

2 What are our country's greatest enemies?

3 What results if we have religion without patriotism?

4 What results if we have patriotism without religion?

5 How ought the 4th of July be celebrated?

6 How are fire-works evidence of patriotism?

7 Would it be more patriotic to save the money usually spent on the Fourth and use it for missions?

8 How can our society help make our country better?

C. F. YODER.

THE YOUNG MEN—WHO SHALL HAVE THEM, CHRIST OR SATAN?

EMMA V. HOUSER.

When the president of the Township Sunday School Association asked me to talk upon the above subject, I thought to myself, that question is about as broad as it is long, and can only be correctly answered in that great and notable day, when the great Shepherd shall separate his sheep from the goats, while judgment is pronounced upon them,—"And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left." "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. . . . Then shall he say also unto them on his left hand, Depart from me ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

It remains then for the young men to decide whether they wish to go to the right or to the left. Young men, *now* is the time to decide! You have no promise of such a chance in the future. Today we have a golden opportunity, tomorrow may or may not give us the same.

"Today the Saviour calls, oh listen now:
Within these sacred walls to Jesus bow.
The Spirit calls today, yield to his power,
Oh grieve him not away, 'tis mercy's hour."

We are living in the present and in the present only. The past is gone, we could not change it if we would, but, we may atone for it in the present, and the future will take care of itself.

There never was an age in which the young people have had the golden opportunities that await them today. In the Sabbath school, Young People's meetings and similar